

"RING DOWN THE CURTAIN."

Representative Belford's Interjectory Remark in the House Yesterday

While Messrs. Manning and Curtin Were Enacting a Little Farce,

The Disputed Seat Declared Vacant Until the Case is Decided on Its Merits.

\$200,000 More for the Flood Sufferers—The National Bank Question.

THE HOUSE.

Mr. Holman, from the committee on appropriations, reported a joint resolution, making a further appropriation of \$200,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the Ohio flood.

Mr. Browne read a telegram from Richmond, Ind., asking for an immediate appropriation for the relief of the destitute and homeless people along the banks of the Ohio river.

The joint resolution was then passed.

Mr. Turner called up the Chalmers-Manning election case. Its consideration was antagonized by Mr. McMillin, of Tennessee, in favor of the private calendar, but he was unsuccessful; and Mr. Miller, of Pennsylvania, took the floor in opposition.

Mr. Tucker made a brief and very forcible legal argument in behalf of the right of Manning to the seat on the prima facie case, contending that the house would set a very bad example if it did not decide in his favor, and that in deciding in his favor it would be doing justice to many of the constituents.

Mr. Holman, from the committee on appropriations, reported a joint resolution, making a further appropriation of \$200,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the Ohio flood.

A long debate ensued, participated in by Mr. Holman, Mr. McMillin, Mr. G. W. Jones, Mr. Van Eaton and Mr. Belford, in support of the minority resolutions; by Messrs. Puter, Ranney and Kasson, in favor of the resolutions of the majority; and by Mr. Barkdale in advocacy of a proposed amendment, directing the committee on elections immediately to decide the case upon the merits.

The dreary monotony of the discussion was not interrupted by any noteworthy event until 3 o'clock, when the session was adjourned.

Then Mr. Curtin took the floor for the purpose of withdrawing his resolution for recommission, and he wound up his recital of the reasons which led to his action, adding that in deciding in his favor, that it had devolved some other thing to do, but especially it had developed the fact that there was the utmost contrariety of opinion as to his bona fides, which could be easily proved.

The speaker from Rhode Island said that he had exhibited great unanimity of sentiment in favor of the national bank system, and the inquiry, that senator had put it, was now mainly how we could best use the money which the nation had.

Mr. Manning's full consent and approbation I bring him to the speaker's desk and ask that the oaths be administered to him on the certificate of the governor of Mississippi. Submitting my name in his words, Mr. C. Manning, the chair and together they stood at the bar of the house, where Mr. Curtin presented him and demanded that he be sworn as a representative under the certificate of the governor of Mississippi.

Immediately the house woke up and Mr. Calkins was ready with a point of order that the house had referred the case to a committee, and that the committee had reported to a person claiming to be a voter, and that house itself was then in a state of considerable confusion.

The speaker said that he did not think that there was any necessity to decide a question of order, because the question whether or not Mr. Manning was entitled to sit in the case of one of his constituents, on which the house was now considering, and on which the house was about to take a vote. The chair would not undertake to administer the oath, and referred to a person claiming to be a voter, and that house itself was considering his right to a seat.

Mr. Manning and Mr. Curtin thereupon retired to their seats amid the derisive laughter of the returning crowd, which was increased at the report of Mr. Belford, "Ring down the curtain, the play is over."

The debate was closed by Mr. Rogers in support of the minority resolution, and by Mr. Turner in support of the majority resolution.

The question then required on substituting the minority resolutions for those of the majority, and a division of the resolutions being demanded, the vote was taken on the motion, resulting that Mr. Belford's motion carried.

This was rejected—yeas 106, nays 149.

The announcement of the vote was received with applause on the minority side.

Mr. Warner observed that it would be useless to waste the time of the house by a further vote. He therefore asked to withdraw the other resolution, but Mr. Warner objected.

The speaker then acting in the interest of the seat was defeated—yeas 92, nays 157.

The majority resolutions were then adopted by a vote of 150 to 56. These discharge the committee on elections from the prima facie case, and the seat was vacant until the case is decided on its merits.

Mr. Brown introduced a bill making it a felony, punishable by fine and imprisonment, for persons to be paid or to receive payment, and to be an officer or employee acting under the authority of the United States or any department thereof.

Referred.

The house then at 5:30 adjourned until Monday.

THE SENATE.

The chair laid before the senate a communication from the attorney general, explaining the delay in responding to the call for his opinion made by the postmaster general regarding the adjustment of postmasters' salaries. The master was received in his office, he says, in August last, while on his vacation. When he returned he gave a close inspection, and as it was a matter involving a large amount of money and complicated and intricate questions, and he was anxious to give it a careful and deliberate consideration, he delayed in giving his opinion. Mr. Morrison, the attorney general, who was then at Washington, was requested to furnish him with the opinion of the attorney general, and he accordingly did so.

Mr. Morrison sent to the desk and had read a telegraphic dispatch from Mr. Richard Smith, of Cincinnati, to Isaac H. Jones, Washington, 4 yesterday, in which he gave great detail of the matter of the relief of the sufferers by the Ohio floods; that red tape, which interferes had been cleared, had been all cut and thrown away; that the telegraph was to be used to the best advantage, and that the disaster that neither man nor the information could sufficiently describe the suffering, that congress should appropriate an additional million; it would have to come in, and the more promptly the better. Mr. Morrison said that there was no politics in the master. Everybody was working for it as the cause of a common humanity.

Mr. Voorhees said he had similar telegrams, and was much grieved. He said his people had not on the occasion of last year's flood asked the aid of congress, as the Indiana legislature was then in session, but would have done so, as the legislature was convened in time to have made immediate action as would meet the emergency.

Mr. Borch stated that he had received similar telegrams from his state. He had seen the secretary of war a few weeks ago, and he said that the two representatives would get another appropriation, and the money already appropriated would be sufficient for Friday, Saturday, and perhaps Sunday.

Mr. Garrison said the people of Indiana had made and were making large contributions from their private means, and he hoped the aid of congress would be prompt.

Mr. Foote presented a petition from 1,100 soldiers in Washington territory praying for protection in the titles to their land in the controversy between them and the Northern Pacific railroad company.

Mr. Law, from the committee on Indian affairs, reported a joint resolution designed to remedy a difficulty which had arisen in the execution of an act of congress relating to the application of the laws of Indiana's edition.

Mr. Davis explained that the accounting officers of the treasury had at first considered that the act permitted the erection of new schools, as well as the old, and that the new ones should be erected in addition to the old. These officers, Mr. Davis added, had, on more mature consideration, concluded that the act, as worded, did not warrant the erection of new schools, and left the latter interpretation to be that, which, in his opinion, was correct. Under the first interpretation, however, a building had been contracted for partly erected at Law, near Kan., and the resolution, in good faith entered into in connection with that building, to be carried out.

Mr. Plumb spoke in favor of the resolution.

The vote was then taken on the amendment to the bill, and the message was received from the department of the interior, said that if this error would have the effect to make that department more careful in the future he would not object to the passage of the measure.

At 1:30 p. m. Mr. Allison, from the committee on appropriations, reported back favorably the joint resolution of the house of representatives making a further appropriation of \$200,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the Ohio floods.

The joint resolution was read three times and passed without debate.

The following nomination was confirmed by the senate yesterday:

John Colburn, of Indiana, to associate justice of the supreme court of the territory of Montana.

Philip Carroll, to be counsel at Port Stanley and Ontario.

Wilber Goodspeed, to be United States marshal for the northern district of Ohio.

Robert L. Johnson, to be collector of the navy for the district of Alaska.

Joseph C. Biglin, of New York, to be assistant treasurer in the district of New York.

Navy—Lieut. James C. Crisp and Asher C. Pendleton stated that the legislature of Ohio had appropriated \$200,000, and was considering the propriety of making a larger sum available for the same part of the money appropriated by the national government was expected to go to the city of Cincinnati. The people of that city, with great liberality, had provided for all who were suffering in the vicinity. The money appropriated by Congress would be applied to the aid of the sufferers along the river.

The joint resolution was read three times and passed without debate.

The following message was received from the house of representatives announcing the affixing of the speaker's signature to the measure, whereupon the president of the senate adjourned his own.

A letter of a private bill, to be couched at Port Stanley and Ontario.

Philip Carroll, to be consul at Palermo.

Wilber Goodspeed, to be United States marshal for the northern district of Ohio.

Robert L. Johnson, to be collector of the navy for the district of Alaska.

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CONFIRMATIONS.

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Philip Carroll, to be United States marshal for the northern district of Ohio.

Robert L. Johnson, to be collector of the navy for the district of Alaska.

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